

(19) World Intellectual Property  
Organization  
International Bureau



550157

(43) International Publication Date  
28 October 2004 (28.10.2004)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number  
**WO 2004/092744 A2**

(51) International Patent Classification<sup>7</sup>: **G01P**  
(21) International Application Number:  
PCT/US2004/009098  
(22) International Filing Date: 26 March 2004 (26.03.2004)  
(25) Filing Language: English  
(26) Publication Language: English  
(30) Priority Data:  
60/460,237 3 April 2003 (03.04.2003) US

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA PATENT FOUNDATION**  
[US/US]; 1224 West Main Street, Suite 1-110, Charlottesville, VA 22903 (US).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **ALWAN, Majd**  
[SY/US]; 479 Rolling Valley Court, Charlottesville, VA

22902 (US). **FELDER, Robin, A.** [US/US]; 1841 Fendall Avenue, Charlottesville, VA 22903 (US). **KELL, Steven, W.** [US/US]; 641 Campbell Road, Keswick, VA 22947 (US). **DALAL, Siddharth** [IN/US]; 1800 Jefferson Park Avenue, No. 87, Charlottesville, VA 22903 (US).

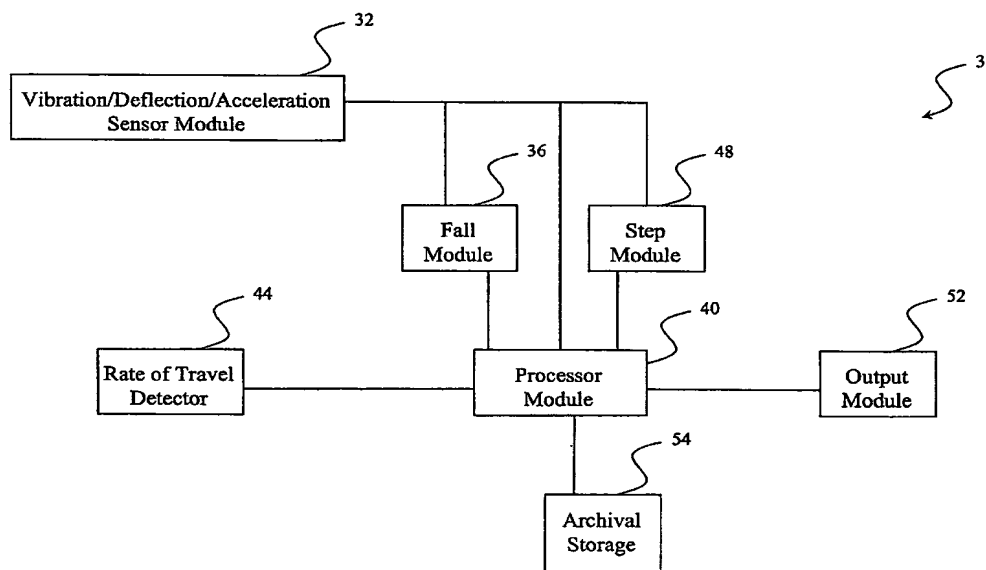
(74) Agent: **DECKER, Robert, J.**; University of Virginia Patent Foundation, 1224 West Main Street, Suite 1-110, Charlottesville, VA 22903 (US).

(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW),

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: **METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR THE DERIVATION OF HUMAN GAIT CHARACTERISTICS AND DETECTING FALLS PASSIVELY FROM FLOOR VIBRATIONS**



(57) Abstract: The gait monitor system and method provides various basic gait parameters including step count, cadence, and step duration, in addition to its ability to distinguish between normal, limping and shuffling gait modes, as well as determine falls. Moreover, this gait monitor may be provided with additional sensors, e.g. beam break at the beginning and end of a corridor to estimate average walking velocity (with the distance between the beams known or determined); this enables the calculation of additional gait characteristics such as average step length and average stride length. These parameters can additionally be used to detect various gait anomalies and other diagnostic information.

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Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

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**Published:**

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